



CHRIST

— THE KING —

The Lord's Day, April 28, 2019

“...taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ...”



CHRIST - THE KING -

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Thank you for joining us this morning! At Christ the King, our worship is a divine-human dialogue, in accordance with Scriptural example and precedent, alternatively hearing God's Word and responding in prayer, song, or meditation. The boxes throughout the bulletin were written to aid each worshipper in thoughtful and meaningful participation in this dialogue. Please prepare your heart by reading through the bulletin, praying for those leading and worshipping around you, and silencing all communication devices.

We encourage parents to involve children as soon as possible in the worship service. In consideration of other worshippers, we request parents with children not yet ready for unobtrusive participation in worship to utilize the nursery or, if necessary, the cry room. A nursery is available for children ages 3 months to 3 years during all Sunday morning activities.

** Indicates congregational standing*

We Approach the Lord

Prelude

Call to Worship

We acknowledge as we begin our worship that "all the earth," including the Gentiles, worships the Lord.

Psalm 66:1-4 ^{ESV}

- 1 Shout for joy to God, all the earth;
- 2 sing the glory of his name;
 give to him glorious praise!
- 3 Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds!
 So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to
 you.
- 4 All the earth worships you
 and sings praises to you;
 they sing praises to your name.”

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

This hymn contains several acknowledgments of the universal grace of God to all peoples of the earth, and calls them all to worship Him with His people.

“Come, Let Us Sing Unto the Lord” (Trinity Hymnal #16)

We Acknowledge Our Sin

* Reading from the Law

Israel was set apart from the nations, who did not know God (as salvation was restricted generally to Israel). Yet they were to treat Gentiles (aliens) with respect and love. They failed to take this command to heart throughout much of their history, as the biblical record shows. Accordingly, we should recognize God’s common grace even to unbelievers, and love them as our neighbors.

Leviticus 19:33, 34 ^{ESV}

³³ “When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. ³⁴ You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

The prayer for mercy contained in this song is expressive of the humility before the world required by God of His people.

“A Sinner’s Cry”

1. Hear, gracious God, a sinner’s cry
For I have nowhere else to fly
My hope, my only hope’s in Thee
O God, be merciful to me
To Thee I come, a sinner poor
And wait for mercy at Thy door
Indeed, I’ve nowhere else to flee
O God, be merciful to me
2. To Thee I come, a sinner weak
And scarce know how to pray or speak
From fear and weakness set me free
O God, be merciful to me!
To Thee I come, a sinner vile
Upon me, Lord, vouchsafe to smile;
Mercy, through blood, I make my plea
O God, be merciful to me
3. To Thee I come, a sinner great
And well Thou knowest all my state
Yet full forgiveness is with Thee
O God, be merciful to me
To Thee I come, a sinner lost
Nor have I aught wherein to trust
But where Thou art, Lord, I would be
O God be merciful to me
4. To glory bring me, Lord, at last
And there, when all my fears are past
With all Thy saints, then, I’ll agree
God has been merciful to me
God has been merciful to me

We Rejoice in the ASSurAnce of forgiveNeSS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

The Law of God “imprisons” unbelievers in Christ, because it condemns them. But if we are united to Christ by faith, we become part of God’s covenant people (Israel) and heirs of the covenant promises, the blessings of which were inaccessible previously because of our sin, but now are ours in Him because of His obedience, which becomes ours through faith (read Romans 9:30-33).

Galatians 3:21-29 ESV

²¹ Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. ²² But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. ²³ Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

This wonderful hymn of assurance allows us to sing in one verse of the formula for overcoming Satan’s opposition: in the words of Revelation, we overcome him “by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony.” This is our victory.

“Before the Throne of God Above”

1. Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is “Love”
Who ever lives and pleads for me
*My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heav’n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart.
No tongue can bid me thence depart.*
2. When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin
*Because the sinless Saviour died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me.
To look on Him and pardon me.*
3. Behold Him there! the risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless Righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace!
*One with Himself I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Saviour and my God
With Christ, my Saviour and my God.*

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We prAy for eAch Other

Prayers of Intercession

During this time, the elders will be in the back of the room, ready to take personal prayer requests from and pray with all who want this. These will be confidential if desired. Everyone who is not receiving prayer in this way will participate in corporate prayer as the worship leader mentions a list of topics. As each item is mentioned, the congregation should respond with the words, “We offer these our prayers,” followed by a brief silent prayer from each individual.

We hear instruction from the Lord

Sermon

“Christianity: Jewish or Gentile?” Part II (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Acts 21:37-22:29 ESV

³⁷As Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he said to the tribune, “May I say something to you?” And he said, “Do you know Greek? ³⁸Are you not the Egyptian, then, who recently stirred up a revolt and led the four thousand men of the Assassins out into the wilderness?” ³⁹Paul replied, “I am a Jew, from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no obscure city. I beg you, permit me to speak to the people.” ⁴⁰And when he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the steps, motioned with his hand to the people. And when there was a great hush, he addressed them in the Hebrew language, saying: ¹“Brothers and fathers, hear the defense that I now make before you.” ²And when they heard that he was addressing them in the Hebrew language, they became even more quiet. And he said: ³“I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day. ⁴I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering to prison both men and women, ⁵as the high priest and the whole council of elders can bear me witness. From them I received letters to the brothers, and I journeyed toward Damascus to take those also who were there and bring them in bonds to Jerusalem to be punished. ⁶“As I was on my way and drew near to Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone around me. ⁷And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’ ⁸And I answered, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And he said to me, ‘I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.’ ⁹Now those who were with me saw the light but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. ¹⁰And I said, ‘What shall I do, Lord?’ And the Lord said to me, ‘Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.’ ¹¹And since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me, and came into Damascus. ¹²“And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, ¹³came to me, and standing by me said to me, ‘Brother Saul, receive your sight.’ And at that very hour I received my sight and saw him. ¹⁴And he said, ‘The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, to

see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from his mouth; ¹⁵ for you will be a witness for him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. ¹⁶ And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.’ ¹⁷ “When I had returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance ¹⁸ and saw him saying to me, Make haste and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about me.’ ¹⁹ And I said, ‘Lord, they themselves know that in one synagogue after another I imprisoned and beat those who believed in you. ²⁰ And when the blood of Stephen your witness was being shed, I myself was standing by and approving and watching over the garments of those who killed him.’ ²¹ And he said to me, ‘Go, for I will send you far away to the Gentiles.’” ²² Up to this word they listened to him. Then they raised their voices and said, “Away with such a fellow from the earth! For he should not be allowed to live.” ²³ And as they were shouting and throwing off their cloaks and flinging dust into the air, ²⁴ the tribune ordered him to be brought into the barracks, saying that he should be examined by flogging, to find out why they were shouting against him like this. ²⁵ But when they had stretched him out for the whips, Paul said to the centurion who was standing by, “Is it lawful for you to flog a man who is a Roman citizen and uncondemned?” ²⁶ When the centurion heard this, he went to the tribune and said to him, “What are you about to do? For this man is a Roman citizen.” ²⁷ So the tribune came and said to him, “Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?” And he said, “Yes.” ²⁸ The tribune answered, “I bought this citizenship for a large sum.” Paul said, “But I am a citizen by birth.” ²⁹ So those who were about to examine him withdrew from him immediately, and the tribune also was afraid, for he realized that Paul was a Roman citizen and that he had bound him.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

W e C o m m u n e W i t h O u r L o r d

Communion Meditation

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. (*or universal)

Distribution of Elements

Because we believe that wine was used in the Last Supper and is thus more in accord with the fullness of symbolism intended by God in the Lord's Supper, we offer wine and encourage those who take part in Communion to take this. For those with conscientious convictions against the use of wine, however, we offer the option of grape juice, which is contained in the inner circle of the communion trays. The cups containing wine are in the outer circles of the trays.

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken Formed thee for his own abode;
On the Rock of Ages founded, What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
2. See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters, And all fear of want remove:
Who can faint, while such a river Ever flows their thirst t' assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver, Never fails from age to age.
3. Round each habitation hov'ring, See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a cov'ring, Showing that the Lord is near:
Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna Which he gives them when they pray.

4. When the curse still marred creation,
Hate and war and fear remained;
Tribes and nations, kingdoms, colors,
Sought their own vain praise to sing.
But God has torn the wall dividing,
Man from God and man from man.
Songs from every race and culture,
Fill the earth to praise Him then.
5. Saviour, if of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am,
Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in the Name:
Fading is the worlding's pleasure, All his boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasure None but Zion's children know.

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We reSpond to the grAce of the Lord

Offering Meditation

The collection mentioned in this passage is part of the background to today's sermon passage, as Paul's meeting with James was in part an opportunity to express the Gentile churches' commitment to their Jewish brethren through meeting their material needs. Our offerings are accordingly an expression of love both for God and for His people.

Romans 15:23-29 ESV

²³ But now, since I no longer have any room for work in these regions, and since I have longed for many years to come to you, ²⁴ I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while. ²⁵ At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints. ²⁶ For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem. ²⁷ For they were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have come to share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material blessings. ²⁸ When therefore I have completed this and have delivered to them what has been collected, I will leave for Spain by way of you. ²⁹ I know that when I come to you I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

Presentation of Offerings

See Communion

* Doxology (Trinity Hymnal #731)

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

We reSpond to the Word

At the close of our worship today we are reminded as we sing of the victory of Jesus, which has already been won, and that this is the context of the Great Commission (see Matthew 28:16-20), motivating us to spread His victory throughout the world as we proclaim the Gospel.

* “Shout, for the Blessed Jesus Reigns” (Trinity Hymnal #369)

Benediction

VISION

Purpose (our reason for existence): to reverse the effects of rebellion against God (sin)

Mission (what we are called to do): to build the Kingdom of God, by...

- adding people (incorporation)
- building people (edification)

Core Values (our fundamental commitments):

1. *Knowing* truth from God (Scripture)
2. *Being* right with God (Justification)
3. *Living* life for God (Sanctification)

Goals (what we seek to accomplish):

1. *Worship*—People experiencing and being attracted to and trained in the enjoyment of God
2. *Fellowship*—People displaying and enjoying genuinely loving and giving relationships/Christian community
3. *Christian Education*—People being confronted with and oriented to the whole truth of God
4. *Outreach*—People being drawn to the Church and trained to draw others
5. *Mercy*—People caring about and meeting the material needs of both non-Christians and other Christians

How can you be a part of all this?



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